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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/058,183	01/26/2002	Richard Daire	7604	4882

7590 02/14/2003

WILLIAM S. LIGHTBODY
LIGHTBODY LAW OFFICE
ATRIUM SUITE 100
32600 FAIRMOUNT BLVD.
PEPPER PIKE, OH 44124

EXAMINER

KING, BRADLEY T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3683

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/058,183

Applicant(s)

DAIGRE, RICHARD

Examiner

Bradley T King

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 32 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31, 33 and 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 6, 20, and 28 recite the limitation "bypass means". It is unclear what disclosed structure is the "bypass means" as no bypass function is provided by the structure.

Claims 1 and 18 recites "a spring" and further recites "bias means". It is unclear what structure other than the spring serves as "bias means".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United

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States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-10, 12-14, 18, 20-21, 23-24, 26-27 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Muramoto(US# 6405837).

Muramoto discloses all the limitations of the instant claims including: a brake having a friction surface 132, a brake member 134, a mechanical activator 200, the mechanical activator being mounted to the intermediate member for movement between a first and second positions, a spring 162, bias means to connect the spring to the intermediate member, a cavity 130, the cavity being in the intermediate member 122, a piston 142, the piston being in the cavity to define a chamber 172, connect means 202 to connect the piston to the spring and pressurization means 194-195 to pressurize the chamber to move the spring.

Regarding claim 6-7, Muramoto discloses bypass means and a mechanical activator has a portion in the bypass means 202.

Regarding claims 9-10, the pressurized fluid serves to deactivate the bias means.

Regarding claim 12, Muramoto discloses a stop in the form of a wall in the cavity.

Regarding claims 13-14, Muramoto discloses a hydraulic motor (column 1, line 19) and also discloses two pressure ports 194-195 which feed pressure from the vehicle hydraulic system.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 9-10, 12, 15-20, 23-24, 26, 28-29, 31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sterns (US#1988986).

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Stern discloses all the limitations of the instant claims including: a brake having a friction surface, a brake member, a mechanical activator 29, the mechanical activator being mounted to the intermediate member for movement between a first and second positions, a spring 37, bias means to connect the spring to the intermediate member, a cavity 36, the cavity being in the intermediate member 34, a piston 42, the piston being in the cavity to define a chamber 36, connect means 32 to connect the piston to the spring and pressurization means pressurize the chamber to move the spring.

Regarding claim 4, Stern discloses a lever 29.

Regarding claims 9-10, the pressurized fluid serves to deactivate the bias means.

Regarding claim 12, Stern discloses a stop 43.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 11, 22, 25, and 30 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 32 is allowed.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Towers et al, Gauer et al, Lee et al, Chouings, Kobelt, Sexton, and Dick. All show braking devices.

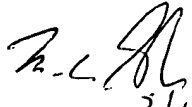
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bradley T King whose telephone number is (703) 308-8346. The examiner can normally be reached on 11:00-7:30 M-F.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

BTK
February 10, 2003


2/10/2003
MATTHEW C. GRAHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 310